

that the same universal law of gravitation should apply to a falling apple and to the planets in orbit about the sun, at  $10^{12}$  times the distance.

### Problems

- 1.1 An electron of energy 20 GeV is deflected through an angle of  $5^\circ$  in an elastic collision with a stationary proton. What is the value of the square of the 4-momentum transfer,  $q^2$ , and down to what approximate distance does such a collision probe the internal structure of the proton? (The mass of the electron can be neglected compared with the energies involved. The proton mass  $Mc^2$  is 0.938 GeV.)
- 1.2 The flux of primary cosmic rays averaged over the Earth's surface is approximately  $1 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , and their average kinetic energy is 3 GeV. Show that the power transferred to the Earth from cosmic rays is about 2.5 gigawatt. (Earth radius = 6400 km.)
- 1.3 The values of  $mc^2$  for the pion  $\pi^+$  and muon  $\mu^+$  are 139.57 MeV and 105.66 MeV respectively. Find the kinetic energy of the muon in the decay  $\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ + \nu_\mu$  assuming that the neutrino is massless. For a neutrino of finite but very small mass  $m_\nu$  show that, compared with the case of a massless neutrino, the muon momentum would be reduced by the fraction

$$\frac{\Delta p}{p} = -\frac{m_\nu^2(m_\pi^2 + m_\mu^2)}{(m_\pi^2 - m_\mu^2)^2} \simeq -\frac{4m_\nu^2}{10^4}$$

where  $m_\nu$  is in MeV.

- 1.4 Deduce an expression for the energy of a  $\gamma$ -ray from the decay of the neutral pion,  $\pi^0 \rightarrow 2\gamma$ , in terms of the mass  $m$ , energy  $E$  and velocity  $\beta c$  of the pion and the angle of emission  $\theta$  in the pion rest frame. Show that if the pion has spin zero, so that the angular distribution is isotropic, the laboratory energy spectrum of the  $\gamma$ -rays will be flat, extending from  $E(1 + \beta)/2$  to  $E(1 - \beta)/2$ . Find an expression for the disparity  $D$  (the ratio of energies) of the  $\gamma$ -rays and show that  $D > 3$  in half the decays and  $D > 7$  in one quarter of them.
- 1.5 (a) A negative muon, when brought to rest in liquid hydrogen, can form a molecular ion  $\text{H}_2^+$  by displacing an electron. Why? (b) Hydrogen contains a small amount of the heavier isotope deuterium, and it is found that negative muons stopping in hydrogen eventually form molecular ions  $\text{HD}^+$ . Why? (c) What is the typical internuclear distance in such an ion? (d) If the two nuclei fuse to form  $^3\text{He}$ , what may happen to the muon?
- 1.6 The  $\rho$  meson is a particle of spin  $J = 1$  and mass  $770 \text{ MeV}/c^2$  occurring in three charge states  $\rho^+$ ,  $\rho^0$ ,  $\rho^-$ . It decays to a pair of spinless pions. Show that while  $\rho^\pm \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^\pm$  and  $\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^+\pi^-$  are allowed,  $\rho^0 \rightarrow \pi^0\pi^0$  is forbidden.
- 1.7 State which of the following reactions are allowed by the conservation laws and which

## Answers to problems

### Chapter 1

**1.1**  $q^2 = 2.81 \text{ GeV}^2; 0.74 \text{ fm}.$

**1.4**  $E_\gamma = E_\pi(1 + \beta \cos \theta)/2; dN/dD = 2/(D + 1)^2.$

**1.5**

- (a) Binding energy of  $(\text{H}_2\mu)^+$  larger than  $(\text{H}_2e)^+$ .
- (b) Reduced mass  $\mu_H = m_\mu/(1 + m_\mu/M_H) < \mu_D = m_\mu/(1 + m_\mu/M_D).$
- (c)  $3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}.$
- (d)  $\text{HD} \rightarrow {}^3\text{He} + \mu + 5.4 \text{ MeV}.$

(For references, see G. Feinberg and L. Lederman, *Ann. Rev. Nucl. Sci.* **13**, 431, 1963.)

- 1.7** Reactions 1,2,5 allowed. Reaction 3 forbidden by lepton conservation.  
Reaction 4 forbidden by conservation of strangeness in strong interactions.

**1.8**  $6.7 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}.$

**1.9** (b)  $26.5 \text{ cm}, (c) 10^{-7}.$

**1.10**

- (a)  $\theta_{\max} = 0.80 \text{ rad}, p = 7.96 \text{ GeV}/c.$
- (b)  $\theta = 0, p = 9.21 \text{ GeV}/c, q_{\max}^2 = 15.6 \text{ GeV}^2.$

### Chapter 2

**2.1**  $\simeq 10^6.$

**2.2**  $|\Delta e/e| > \sqrt{(G_N M^2/e^2)} = 10^{-18}.$

**2.4**  $17.6 \text{ mb}.$